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R 022334Z JUL 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 165555

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, XF, XA, US

SUBJECT:U.S.-JAPANESE BILATERALS ON AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

REF: STATE 154225

- 1. PLEASE INFORM JAPANESE THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY WILLIAM E. SCHAUFELE REGRETS HE WILL BE UNABLE TO JOIN HIS JAPANESE COUNTERPARTS DURING PLANNED JULY 21 SESSION ON AFRICA. HE HAD LOOKED FORWARD TO EXCHANGING VIEWS ON AFRICA, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. HOWEVER, SCHAUFELE HAS BEEN ASKED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO VISIT AFRICA FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH AFRICAN LEADERS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH KEY U.S. EMBASSIES, THEREBY REQUIRING HIM TO CHANGE HIS EARLIER PLANS. SCHAUFELE CONTINUES TO LOOK FORWARD TO CONSULTATION WITH THE JAPANESE.
- 2. REQUEST EMBASSY ASK MINISTRY WHETHER IT WOULD PREFER TO PROCEED WITH TALKS LIMITED TO MIDDLE EAST ON JULY 20 OR, ALTERNATIVELY, TO RE-SCHEDULE JOINT DISCUSSIONS ON MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA AT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE LATER DATE. CONFIDENTIAL

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IF GOJ PREFERS CONSULTATIONS ON MIDDLE EAST PROCEED AS

SCHEDULED, SCHAUFELE FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM AFRICA WOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH JAPANESE CONCERNING ARRANGEMENTS

FOR MUTUALLY AGREEABLE DATE TO CONSULT ON AFRICAN MATTERS. IF LATTER, WE WILL INDICATE POSSIBLE DATES FROM U.S. STANDPOINT IN NEAR FUTURE.

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